U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of EDWARD G. SAWL <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD, Annville, Pa.

Docket No. 97-1979; Submitted on the Record; Issued July 9, 1999

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before DAVID S. GERSON, BRADLEY T. KNOTT, A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant has met his burden of proof to establish that he sustained a recurrence of disability causally related to his employment injury.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of appellant on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated February 24, 1997, and finalized March 7, 1997 is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated February 24, 1997 and finalized March 7, 1997 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. July 9, 1999

> David S. Gerson Member

Bradley T. Knott Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski Alternate Member